

Amendments to the Claims/Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A mattress comprising:

a first air fluidized support section;
a second air fluidized support section positioned in spaced relation to the first air fluidized support section; and
an air cushion positioned intermediate the first air fluidized support section and the second air fluidized support section.
2. (Original) The mattress of claim 1, wherein the first air fluidized support section is a foot support section located to support the feet of a patient.
3. (Original) The mattress of claim 2, wherein the second air fluidized support section is a seat support section located to support the seat of the patient.
4. (Original) The mattress of claim 3, wherein the first air fluidized support section is releasably coupled adjacent the air cushion.
5. (Original) The mattress of claim 4, further comprising a first replacement air cushion configured to replace the first air fluidized support section.
6. (Original) The mattress of claim 5, wherein the second air fluidized support section is releasably coupled adjacent the air cushion.
7. (Original) The mattress of claim 6, further comprising a second replacement air cushion configured to replace the second air fluidized support section.
8. (Original) The mattress of claim 1, wherein the first air fluidized support section and the second air fluidized support section each include a chamber and a fluidizable material located within the chamber.
9. (Original) The mattress of claim 8, wherein the first air fluidized support section and the second air fluidized support section each further include a plenum located below the chamber and configured to be coupled to an air supply to supply air to the plenum

so that air passes upwardly from the plenum through the chamber to fluidize the fluidizable material.

10. (Original) The mattress of claim 3, wherein the air cushion is a knee zone air cushion located to support the legs of the patient.

11. (Original) The mattress of claim 10, further comprising a head zone air cushion positioned in spaced relation to the seat support section and configured to support the head of the patient.

12. (Original) The mattress of claim 11, further comprising a shoulder zone air cushion positioned intermediate the head zone air cushion and the seat support section and configured to support the back of a patient.

13. (Original) The mattress of claim 12, further comprising a lumbar cushion positioned intermediate the seat support section and the shoulder zone air cushion.

14. (Original) The mattress of claim 8, wherein the fluidizable material of the first air fluidized support section is positioned longitudinally adjacent a first end of the air cushion, and the fluidizable material of the second air fluidized support section is positioned longitudinally adjacent a second end of the air cushion.

15. (Currently Amended) A mattress having a head end and a foot end, the mattress comprising:

an air fluidized foot support section positioned proximate the foot end and configured to support the feet of an occupant; and

a knee zone air cushion positioned adjacent to the foot support section and closer to the head end than is the foot support section, the knee zone air cushion configured to support the legs of the occupant.

16. (Original) The mattress of claim 15, further comprising a head zone air cushion positioned adjacent the head end and configured to support the head of the occupant.

17. (Original) The mattress of claim 16, further comprising a shoulder zone air cushion positioned intermediate the head zone air cushion and the knee zone air cushion, the shoulder zone air cushion configured to support the back of the occupant.

18. (Original) The mattress of claim 17, further comprising an air fluidized seat support section positioned intermediate the knee zone air cushion and the shoulder zone air cushion, the seat support section configured to support the seat of the occupant.

19. (Original) The mattress of claim 15, further comprising an air supply coupled to the air fluidized foot support section and the air cushion.

20. (Original) The mattress of claim 19, further comprising a manifold coupling the air supply to the air fluidized foot support section and the air cushion.

21. (Original) The mattress of claim 15, wherein the air fluidized support section includes a chamber and a fluidizable material located within the chamber.

22. (Original) The mattress of claim 21, wherein the air fluidized support section further includes a plenum located below the chamber and configured to be coupled to an air supply to supply air to the plenum so that air passes upwardly from the plenum through the chamber to fluidize the fluidizable material.

23. (Original) The mattress of claim 15, wherein the air fluidized foot support section is releasably coupled adjacent to the knee zone air cushion.

24. (Original) The mattress of claim 23, further comprising a replacement air cushion configured to replace the air fluidized foot support section.

25. (Original) A mattress comprising:
an air fluidized foot support section configured to support the feet of an occupant;
an air fluidized seat support section positioned in spaced relation to the foot support section and configured to support the seat of the occupant; and
a non-fluidized knee support section positioned intermediate the foot support section and the seat support section, the knee support section configured to support the legs of the occupant.

26. (Original) The mattress of claim 25, wherein the non-fluidized knee support section comprises an air cushion.

27. (Original) The mattress of claim 25, wherein the foot support section is releasably coupled adjacent the knee support section.

28. (Original) The mattress of claim 27, further comprising a first replacement air cushion configured to replace the foot support section.

29. (Original) The mattress of claim 28, wherein the seat support section is releasably coupled adjacent the knee support section.

30. (Original) The mattress of claim 29, further comprising a second replacement air cushion configured to replace the seat support section.

31. (Original) The mattress of claim 25, wherein the foot support section and the seat support section each include a chamber and a fluidizable material located within the chamber.

32. (Original) The mattress of claim 31, wherein the foot support section and the seat support section each further include a plenum located below the chamber and configured to be coupled to an air supply to supply air to the plenum so that air passes upwardly from the plenum through the chamber to fluidize the fluidizable material.

33. (New) The mattress of claim 1, wherein the first air fluidized support section and the second fluidized support section are each releasably coupled to the mattress in a manner such that a standard air cushion may be replaced therein.

34. (New) The mattress of claim 15, wherein the foot support section is releasably coupled to the mattress in a manner such that a standard air cushion may be replaced therein.

35. (New) The mattress of claim 25, wherein the first air fluidized support section and the second fluidized support section are each releasably coupled to the mattress in a manner such that a standard air cushion may be replaced therein.